REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview conducted October 28, 2009.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification for lacking antecedent basis with respect to claims 40 and 41 and rejected claims 1, 2, 5-8, 12, 26, 28, 29, 31-33, 35, and 37-57 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0154400 to Pirttimaa et al. ("Pirttimaa").

By this amendment, Applicants cancel claims 40 and 41 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend claims 26 and 31 to improve form.

Regarding the objection to the specification, Applicants submit that the cancelation of claims 40 and 41 obviates the basis of the objection.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5-8, 12, 26, 28, 29, 31-33, 35, 37-39, and 42-57 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Pirttimaa. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites a combination including the following features:

> forwarding a prefix value to a node in a packet switched environment to create a security association with the node based on the prefix value, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address,
> wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

By way of example, Applicants submit that implementations consistent with claim 1 may allow a UE to change its IP address without requiring a re-registration to update a security association (SA) as the SA is valid for a plurality of IP addresses to which a prefix values refers.

The Examiner is directed to the examples at FIG. 3 as well as the corresponding descriptions at paragraphs 0028, 0034, and 0042.

In contrast to claim 1, Pirttimaa discloses a security association. Pirttimaa, para. 0039. However, nowhere does Pirttimaa disclose a single SA being valid over a range of IP address, much less "wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers." Instead, Pirttimaa makes clear that only one SA is active and that this single SA is updated when a re-registration has occurred. Pirttimaa, paragraph 0040. Specifically, Pirttimaa states:

> [0040] Only one SA is active between the UE 1 40 and the P-CSCF 30 . This single SA is updated when a new successful authenticated re-registration has occurred. Before a user can get access to the IM services at least one IMPU needs to be registered and the IMPI authenticated in the IMS at application level. In order to get registered, the UE 1 40 sends a SIP REGISTER message towards the SIP registrar server, i.e. the S-CSCF 10 , which will perform the authentication of the user. The P-CSCF 30 forwards the SIP REGISTER message towards the S-CSCF 10 and adds a Via header with its address included. Upon receiving the SIP REGISTER message the S-CSCF 10 needs one authentication vector (AV). Based on the parameters given in the AV, the S-CSCF 10 authenticates the user and registers the corresponding IMPU. Implicitly registered IMPUs can be delivered by the HSS 20 to the S-CSCF 10.

Pirttimaa, paragraph 0040. It is clear that Pirttimaa lacks any disclosure regarding a single SA being valid over a range of IP address, much less the above-noted feature of claim 1. Indeed, during the telephonic interview of October 28, 2009, the Examiner appeared to agree that this was the case.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner appears to allege that Pirttimaa at paragraph 0043 is relevant to claim 1. Applicants disagree because it is indisputable that Pirttimaa at paragraph 0043 discloses activities after the SA has been setup, as described at

paragraph 0041-0043 and depicted at <u>Pirttimaa</u> FIG. 2 (which is reproduced below). Specifically, <u>Pirttimaa</u> states:

> [0043] Based on the result of the address comparison in step 2, the P-CSCF 30 makes a forwarding decision (step 3), e.g. whether the received message is to be forwarded to the S-CSCF 10 , or not. If the compared IP addresses indicate the same location, e.g. are the same addresses, no fraudulent attack can be assumed, since the source address indicated in the SIP message corresponds to a "true" source address, i.e. the actual source address of the IP datagram or the IP address indicated by the SA parameters stored at the P-CSCF 30 . In this case, the SIP message, e.g. SIP INVITE, is forwarded in step 4 to the S-CSCF 10. Then, the S-CSCF 10 checks in step 5, whether the IP address indicated in the header has been bound to the IMPU indicated in the From header of the SIP message.

<u>Pirttimaa</u>, paragraph 0043. It is clear that, at best, <u>Pirttimaa</u> paragraph 0043 discloses activities after "Set-up of security association," such as comparing the contact address included in the "INVITE" (labeled "1" at FIG. 2) with the single address previously bound to the SA during the SA set-up (see, e.g., paragraph 0041).
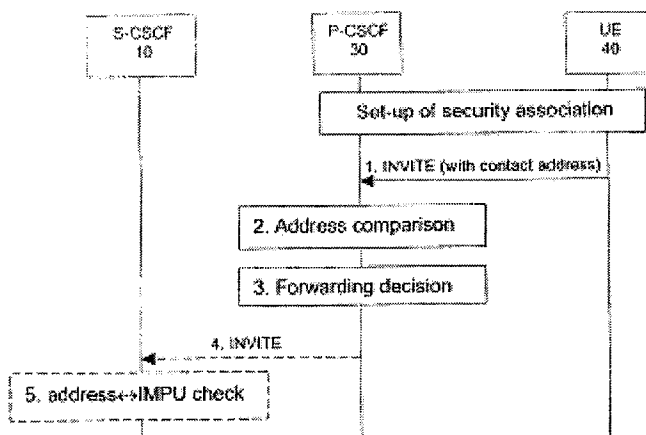

Fig. 2

In view of the foregoing, <u>Pirttimaa</u> fails to disclose at least the following feature of claim 1: "wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses comprising said portion of the first

internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers." Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated

by <u>Pirttimaa</u>, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) of claim 1 as well as claims 2, 3, 5-8, 12,

28, and 33, at least by reason of their dependency, should be withdrawn.

Independent claims 26, 29, 31, 32, and 38, although of different scope, include features

similar to some of those noted above with respect to claim 1. For at least the reasons given

above, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) of claims 26, 29, 31, 32, and 38, as well as claims

35, 37, 39, and 42-57, at least by reason of their dependency, should be withdrawn.
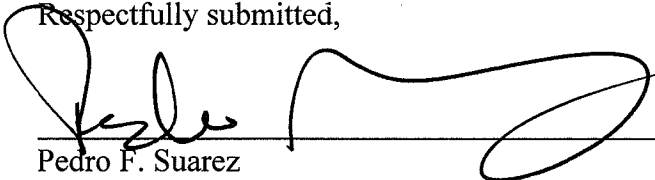
CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, the pending claims are in condition for allowance. It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper.

No fees are believed to be due, however the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference No. 39700-580001US/NC39543US. If there are any questions regarding this reply, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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